



# Arizona Cancer Registry 2007 MP/H Rules Technical Bulletin #2

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## Applying the Multiple Primary Rules to Multiple Occurrences of Bladder Cancer

The ACR has received a number of questions about how the 2007 multiple primary rules apply when a patient is diagnosed with multiple papillary and/or transitional cell carcinomas at different times. Since bladder cancers commonly recur, registrars have been concerned that they will continually be abstracting new bladder primaries for a single patient. A common scenario is described below.

### Question

Patient was diagnosed in 2003 with an invasive papillary transitional cell carcinoma (8130/3) of the bladder. Patient had two recurrences the following year. He entered the facility in 2007 and was diagnosed with multiple bladder tumors; histology showed papillary transitional cell carcinoma histology. How many primaries?

### Answer

This is a single primary. The “Multiple Tumors” modules can be used for malignancies diagnosed at the same time or at different times. Rule M6 states that “Bladder tumors with any **combination** of the following histologies: **papillary carcinoma (8050)**, **transitional cell carcinoma (8120-8124)**, or **papillary transitional cell carcinoma (8130-8131)**, are a single primary.” The term “combination” can refer to tumors diagnosed at the same time or at different times. When abstracting papillary/transitional cell cancers, you will first reach rule M6. Since it is the first applicable rule, you would never reach rule M7, “Tumors diagnosed **more than three (3) years apart** are multiple primaries.”

### Reference

Transcript of web cast “Advanced MP/H Training: Beyond the Basics.” Available at

[http://www.seer.cancer.gov/tools/mphrules/training\\_adv/SEER MPH\\_Urinary\\_06192007.pdf](http://www.seer.cancer.gov/tools/mphrules/training_adv/SEER MPH_Urinary_06192007.pdf)

